

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-20 IGA-02 EB-11 AGR-20 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1536

UNCLAS DACCA 5227

PASS NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE, USDOC, AID/ASIA; NEA/PAB
LZE O 11652 N/A

TAGS EFIS, BGEN, BG

SUBJECT: FISH PROTEIN CONCENTRATE PLANT IN ABERDEEN, WASHINGTON

1. DR. K. AZIZ, BENGALIEE MARINE BIOLOGIST WITH LONG EXPERIENCE
IN U.S. HAS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT PROTOTYPE FISH PROTEIN
CONCENTRATE (FPC) PLANT SET UP BY USG IN ABERDEEN, WASHINGTON,
HAS BEEN DEPRIVED OF FEDERAL FUNDING AND MAY POSSIBLY BE
UP FOR SALE OR OTHER DISPOSITION. DURING PAKISTAN PERIOD,
AZIZ REPORTED THERE WAS SOME INTEREST ON PART LOCAL GOVERNMENT
HERE IN ESTABLISHING SUCH A PLANT NEAR CHITTAGONG. THE LAND
HAD BEEN ACQUIRED AND FURTHER PLANNING WAS UNDERWAY WHEN WAR
BROKE OUT.

2. AZIZ HAS DONE RESEARCH HERE ON ACCEPTABILITY OF FPC
AS NUTRITIOUS ADDITIVE TO LOCAL DIET AND BELIEVES THERE ARE
GOOD GROUNDS FOR PROCEEDING WITH ESTABLISHMENT OF PLANT
AND LOCAL MANUFACTURE. AZIZ NOT REPEAT NOT A BDG OFFICIAL,
AND NO EXPRESSION OF INTEREST HAS YET MATERIALIZED FROM
GOVERNMENT TOWARD ESTABLISHMENT OF PLANT. HOWEVER, AZIZ
BELIEVES IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO DEVELOP INTEREST AMONG
CONCERNED ELEMENTS OF BDG, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT-OWNED FISH-
ORIES DEVELOPMENT CORP. AND/OR FOOD AND ALLIED PRODUCTS
CORP., WHICH MIGHT RUN PLANT.

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3. AZIZ NOT AWARE OF COST OF PLANT. REQUEST INFORMATION

WHETHER PLANT IS IN FACT AVAILABLE AND IF SO, WHAT ROUGHLY
WOULD BE COST OF PROCUREMENT, SHIPPING AND RE-ERECTION HERE.
IF PLANT AVAILABLE, ALSO REQUEST THAT LITERATURE ON IT AND
FPC BE FORWARDED.

4. MISSION TREATING ABOVE PURELY AS EXPORT OPPORTUNITY WHICH
IF REALIZED IN SALE OF PLANT, MIGHT RESULT IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC
BENEFIT TO BANGLADESH. WE ARE NOT RPT NOT PROPOSING ANY
AID INPUT, ALTHOUGH WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY RECENT
INFORMATION ON FPC.
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